

THE ANNALS

AND

MAGAZINE OF NATURAL HISTORY.

[FOURTH SERIES.]

No. 23. NOVEMBER 1869.

XXXVI.—*On the Coleoptera of St. Helena.*

By T. VERNON WOLLASTON, M.A., F.L.S.

IT is now eight years since I gave an enumeration, in the 'Journal of Entomology,' of fourteen species of Coleoptera which had been detected at St. Helena, on the 21st of July 1860, by the late Mr. Bewicke, during a few hours' collecting in that island (*en passant* from the Cape of Good Hope to Madeira). Since then, our knowledge of the fauna has been considerably increased, mainly through the exertions of J. C. Melliss, Esq., a gentleman who is resident on the spot, and who continues to take a lively interest in the various branches of natural science; and although, clearly, *very* much remains yet to be done, two successive consignments which he has entrusted to me of the beetles which from time to time have rewarded his researches enable me now to venture on something like a systematic, though short, catalogue (destined, I hope, hereafter, to be greatly increased) of the St.-Helena Coleoptera.

That a special interest should attach to the productions of any island which is unusually remote, I need scarcely state; and when we recollect that St. Helena is about 1200 miles from the nearest point of the African continent, we shall at once acknowledge that, for the geographical naturalist, a more isolated field could hardly perhaps be found. The manifest deterioration of the island, in a scientific point of view, during the last 300 years, is a subject on which I need not dilate; for the primeval forests which are said to have more or less clothed it at its discovery have succumbed beneath the ruthless hand of "civilization,"—a few detached patches alone remaining, on the extreme summit and more inaccessible slopes, to harbour what is left of that noble fauna the fragments of which are so eccentric that one cannot but suspect the *quondam*

occurrence of many intermediate links (now, in all probability, long exterminated) which must, as it were, have "articulated them on" to the recognized types with which we are familiar. Of course in an island of this kind, which has become intensely cultivated since the period of its colonization, we naturally should not expect to meet with many traces of its primeval species; for the gradual rooting-out of the native vegetation, and the introduction, year after year, of more "useful" plants (chiefly from European latitudes, but in the present instance, perhaps, partly from the Cape of Good Hope), accompanied by their inevitable train of insect parasites, would so far alter the entire country as to destroy the apparent peculiarity of its productions, and give a mixed character to its fauna and flora to which aboriginally it had no kind of claim. Happily, however, in cases like this, when the species are brought fairly together, it is usually not difficult for a practised eye to separate *in a general way* the species which are strictly endemic from those which have subsequently been introduced and become naturalized; and thus it is that out of the seventy-four which are enumerated in the following catalogue, there are only thirteen concerning which I have (in that particular respect) much doubt. Indeed what we may term the "*ultra-indigenous*" species speak at once, and unmistakeably, for themselves; and in like manner as regards those which are more or less cosmopolitan, or which have found their way, through human agencies, into nearly every country which has the slightest intercommunication with the civilized world, there can be no question. These manifest *importations* last mentioned, which, however, figure so largely in the St.-Helena list, have no real bearing on the true fauna of any single region beyond those whence they were originally disseminated, and for the most part owe their presence in local catalogues merely to the amount of research which may happen to have been made in the houses, stores, gardens, and merchandise around the various ports and towns. Yet, on the other hand, they cannot be omitted or ignored; for some of them may have taken so firm a hold on the newly acquired area as to occupy a prominent place amongst its primeval organisms, and even perhaps to have aided indirectly in their very extermination. This latter contingency, however, seems to me to represent the exception rather than the rule; for I have myself generally observed that the species which are manifestly imported linger almost exclusively about the "inhabited regions," and seldom attach themselves to those which are emphatically wild and uncultivated—and even if in a few instances they should do so, that their *modus vivendi* is totally different from that of the

veritable *autochthones* of the soil. To these *unquestionably* established forms I have, in the subjoined list, placed (as an aid to the eye) an asterisk (*).

Bearing in mind, therefore, the above considerations, I may add that out of the seventy-four species enumerated in the present paper, only thirty-five (or less than half) appear to be *unmistakably* indigenous, whilst the *evidently imported* ones (species which through human agencies have become widely disseminated over more or less of the civilized world) amount to about twenty-six, leaving a residuum of thirteen which I should perhaps characterize as “doubtful,” but the majority of which nevertheless have *in all probability* been naturalized. The thirty-five which seem to be as it were the actual *autochthones* of the soil, or which there is no reason to suspect have been derived from any other country, are the following :—

Haplothorax Burchellii.	Microxylobius terebrans.
Calosoma haligena. } <i>an vere</i>	—— obliteratus.
—— Helenæ. } <i>distinctæ?</i>	—— debilis.
Bembidium Mellissii.	—— Chevrolatii.
Adoretus versutus.	—— conicollis.
Pentarthrum subcæcum.	—— monilicornis.
Nesiotes squamosus.	Notioxenus Bewickii.
—— asperatus.	—— rufopictus.
Trachyphlæosoma setosum.	—— dimidiatus.
Sciobius subnodosus.	—— alutaceus.
Heteronychus arator.	Homœodera rotundipennis.
Mellissius eudoxus.	—— alutaceicollis.
—— adumbratus.	—— pygmæa.
Heteroderes puncticollis.	Longitarsus Helenæ.
Microxylobius Westwoodii.	Cydonia lunata.
—— vestitus.	Opatrum hadroides.
—— lacertosus.	Mordella Mellissiana.
—— lucifugus.	

whilst the twenty-six which clearly have followed in the track of civilization and commerce are these :—

Læmophlæus pusillus.	Anobium confertum.
Cryptophagus affinis.	Rhizopertha bifoveolata.
Mycetæa hirta.	—— pusilla.
Typhæa fumata.	Hylurgus ligniperda.
Dermestes cadaverinus.	Sitophilus oryzæ.
—— vulpinus.	Otiorhynchus sulcatus.
Attagenus gloriosæ.	Aræocerus fasciculatus.
Aphodius lividus.	Alphitobius diaperinus.
Corynetes rufipes.	—— piceus.
Gibbium scotias.	Gnathocerus cornutus.
Anobium velatum.	Tribolium ferrugineum.
—— paniceum.	Tenebrio obscurus.
—— striatum.	Creophilus maxillosus.

^a This leaves the following thirteen, already alluded to as
22*

“doubtful,” the majority of which, however, have *most likely* been, through various causes, naturalized:—

Pristonychus complanatus.
Dactylosternum abdominale.
Sphæridium dytiscoides.
Cryptomorpha musæ.
Tribalus 4-striatus.
Saprinus lautus.
Tomicus æmulus.

Stenoscelis hylastoides.
Bruchus rufobrunneus.
— advena.
Aspidomorpha miliaris.
Epilachna chrysomelina.
Zophobas concolor.

If it be permissible, from material so limited as that which has hitherto been amassed, to build up a rough estimate of the true Coleopterous population of St. Helena, it is clear that the twenty-six “cosmopolitan” species, which have manifestly followed in the wake of mere commerce and civilization, must be altogether set aside; and in that case, giving the thirteen more or less equivocal ones the advantage of the doubt, we should have forty-eight to represent the aboriginal (and evidently much reduced) fauna of this remote deteriorated island. When commenting, in 1861, on even the fourteen species which had been collected by Mr. Bewicke, I called attention to the extraordinary fact that not only did the weevils number nearly two-thirds of the entire batch, but were likewise *all of them endemic, both as regards species and genus!* whilst certainly three, if not indeed more, out of the remaining six (belonging to other families) possess a wide geographical range. This led me to remark that the *Curculionidæ* would, in all probability, be found to play a most important part in the Coleopterous fauna of St. Helena; and I then expressed my belief, *from the mere diversity of configuration* presented by the five species of *Microxylobius* which had been brought to light, that the members of that abnormal little group would *almost certainly* be ascertained to be locally abundant, and, “since the same might be urged with no less force for that extraordinary genus *Notioxenus*,” that there was “every reason to suspect that the *Rhynchophora* of this mountain-island are, in proportion to its size, both numerous and eccentric.”

I have thought it worth while to allude to these casual observations of my own, because they have been so strictly and literally verified. Not only have *Microxylobius* and *Notioxenus* been augmented by newly discovered exponents, but everything tends to prove that they are immeasurably the most significant of the island forms: indeed an undescribed and closely related *genus* has been detected alongside the latter, as though still further to enhance the local importance of that particular Anthribideous type. Scarcely less characteristic, however, than even these three, are, perhaps, the obscure *Cur-*

culionideous groups *Nesiotes* and *Trachyphlæosoma*; and, if indeed it be truly aboriginal (and there is no reason for suspecting the contrary), that curious little blind Cossonid, the *Pentarthrum subcæcum*, may be added to the number, in which case the *Rhynchophora* alone would monopolize no less than six of the most anomalous endemic genera! Indeed the only other manifestly indigenous forms which I should define as *par excellence* "abnormal" are *Haplothorax* of the Carabidæ, and perhaps *Mellissius* of the Lamellicorns, neither of which, however, are so eccentric in their structure as the six Rhynchophorous ones to which I have just alluded.

Apart, however, from their singularity of type, it may be useful, in order to illustrate the mere numerical preponderance of the weevils (as regards both species and genus) in the St.-Helena catalogue, to distribute the forty-eight members of the fauna (to which I have already called attention) under the twelve great sections into which the Coleoptera are usually supposed to arrange themselves. I am well aware that the paucity of the list itself, and *perhaps* likewise the totally unexplored state of the pools and streams, may be sufficient to account for many an apparent anomaly—such as, for instance, the complete absence of the water-beetles and *Brachelytra*; but still, after making every allowance for the manifest imperfection of the material, the broad fact does undoubtedly remain that the researches of Messrs. Melliss, Bewicke, and others (and that, too, whilst by no means neglecting the minuter groups) have brought to light more representatives of the *Rhynchophora* than of all the other departments combined. And that this is truly the case, a glance at the following table will suffice to show:—

Rhynchophora	26
Cordylocerata (<i>i. e.</i> Lamellicorns &c.)	6
Geodephaga	5
Heteromera	3
Philhydrida	2
Phytophaga	2
Pseudotrimera	2
Necrophaga	1
Priocerata	1
Hydradephaga	0
Brachelytra	0
Eucerata	0

 48*

* It is scarcely necessary to consider what would be the result were the whole seventy-four species which are enumerated in the present list distributed under these twelve primary departments, because (as already

It will be seen, on reference, that the seventy-four species of the subjoined list distribute themselves under twenty-eight families and no less than fifty genera. Of these seventy-four species I have been compelled to treat about forty as if they had not been detected in any other country, though it is probable that some five or six of them (as, for instance, the *Histeridæ*, the *Anobium confertum*, and the *Bruchi*) will be found eventually to have been already described. The seven genera which would appear to be peculiar to the island are *Haplothorax* (of the *Carabidæ*), *Mellissius* (of the *Dynastidæ*), *Microxylobius*, *Nesiotes*, and *Trachyphlæosoma* (of the *Curculionidæ*), and *Notioxenus* and *Homœodera* (of the *Anthribidæ*), three of which (*Mellissius*, *Trachyphlæosoma*, and *Homœodera*) have been enunciated for the first time in this memoir. The species which in the present paper I have described as new are the twenty-five following:—

<i>Bembidium Mellissii</i> .	<i>Nesiotes asperatus</i> .
<i>Tribalus 4-striatus</i> .	<i>Trachyphlæosoma setosum</i> .
<i>Saprinus lautus</i> .	<i>Sciobius subnodosus</i> .
<i>Mellissius eudoxus</i> .	<i>Notioxenus dimidiatus</i> .
— <i>adumbratus</i> .	— <i>alutaceus</i> .
<i>Heteroderes puncticollis</i> .	<i>Homœodera rotundipennis</i> .
<i>Anobium confertum</i> .	— <i>alutaceicollis</i> .
<i>Tomicus æmulus</i> .	— <i>pygmæa</i> .
<i>Microxylobius vestitus</i> .	<i>Bruchus rufobrunneus</i> .
— <i>obliteratus</i> .	— <i>advena</i> .
— <i>debilis</i> .	<i>Zophobas concolor</i> .
— <i>monilicornis</i> .	<i>Mordella Mellissiana</i> .
<i>Pentarthrum subcæcum</i> .	

If we exclude from consideration the twenty-six species (above alluded to) which have *unquestionably* been brought into the island through the medium of commerce, and which enter into the fauna of nearly every civilized country, I need scarcely add that the *St.-Helena* list, as hitherto made known, possesses nothing whatever in common with those of the three sub-African archipelagos which lie further to the north—though the great development of the *Curculionideous* sub-family *Cossonides* is a remarkable fact which is more or less conspicuous throughout the whole of them.

stated) the twenty-six which have *manifestly* been introduced (and most of them, perhaps, quite recently) can have no real connexion with the true fauna of the island; nevertheless, even were we to do so, the *position* of the *Rhynchophora* as the most extensive of the various groups (although its relative proportion to them would be lowered) would remain the same. Whilst in the former case, however, it numbers twenty-six, and the remaining sections (combined) twenty-two, in this instance it would contain thirty, and the other eleven divisions forty-four.

Fam. 1. Carabidæ.

Genus 1. HAPLOTHORAX.

Waterhouse, Trans. Ent. Soc. Lond. iii. 207 [script. *Aplothorax*] (1841).

1. *Haplothorax Burchellii*.

Aplothorax Burchellii, Waterh., loc. cit. pl. 12. f. 1 (1841).

A truly indigenous and noble Carabid, which appears, however, to be both local and extremely scarce. Although received many years ago from St. Helena, where it was first detected by the African traveller Dr. Burchell, the only examples of it which I have myself seen have been captured by Mr. Melliss.

Genus 2. CALOSOMA.

Weber, Obs. Ent. 20 (1801).

2. *Calosoma haligena*.

C. supra aut obscure æneum aut fere (vel etiam omnino) nigrum, subopacum; capite irregulariter punctato; prothorace parvo, transverso-subcordato, antice ad latera valde rotundato, angulis posticis retrorsum productis sed obtusis, densissime ruguloso-punctato, utrinque intra angulos posticos late et profunde impresso; elytris grosse crenato-striatis, interstitiis æqualiter elevatis ac transversim imbricato-rugatis, punctis magnis plus minus ænescentibus vel cuprescentibus in triplici serie notatis; antennis pedibusque nigris aut piceo-nigris.

Mas, plerumque vix minor, pedibus sensim crassioribus, tibiis posterioribus (præsertim intermediis) conspicue curvatis, tarsis anticis valde dilatatis.

Fœm., plerumque vix major, pedibus sensim gracilioribus, tibiis intermediis vix curvatis, posticis fere rectis, tarsis anticis simplicibus.

Long. corp. lin. 9–11.

Calosoma haligena, Woll., Journ. of Ent. i. 208 (1861).

Of this fine *Calosoma* a single example was captured at St. Helena (in July 1860) by the late Mr. Bewicke, and several more have since been communicated by Mr. Melliss. It seems to belong to the same type as the African species *senegalense* and *rugosum*, from the former of which it is nevertheless abundantly distinct. From the latter it differs (*inter alia*) in being more depressed, and in having its coppery punctures smaller, in its prothorax being more deeply rugose before and behind, and in its legs being less robust. As regards colour, it appears to be either dull brassy or nearly (if not indeed altogether) black; and its males have their four

posterior tibiæ (particularly, however, the intermediate pair) conspicuously curved, whilst in the opposite sex the hinder ones are nearly (if not quite) straight, and even the middle pair but *very* slightly bent inwards. Whether the *C. Helenæ* of Hope was established on an unusually small and dark individual of this species I cannot feel quite positive; but as the published description of it does not by any means tally with the *C. haligena*, I am compelled (in the absence of evidence which is positive) to retain the two as distinct. If, however, they should prove ultimately to be conspecific, I need scarcely add that the name of *Helenæ* (as the prior one) will of course have to be adopted.

3. *Calosoma Helenæ*.

C. "atrum; elytrorum margine æneo; antennis basi piceis, pedibusque nigris. Long. lin. 8; lat. lin. $3\frac{1}{2}$."

"Habitat in ins. Sanctæ Helenæ. In Mus. Dom. Darwin."

"Atrum; elytris striatis margine æneo, punctisque excavatis triplici serie dispositis. Antennæ 4 primis articulis piceis, reliquis fusco-pubescentibus. Corpus supra et infra nigrum. Thorax transverse ovatus, marginatus. Elytra striata, subrugosa; marginibus externis subvirescentibus, punctisque excavatis triplici serie ordinatis. Pedes nigri, tibiis intermediis incurvis." [Ex Hope.]

Calosoma Helenæ, Hope, Trans. Ent. Soc. Lond. ii. 130 (1838).

Although perhaps it is scarcely likely that so small an island as St. Helena should possess two species of *Calosoma*, nevertheless, since the above description (which I have transcribed *verbatim* from Mr. Hope's paper) does not by any means agree with that of the *C. haligena*, I can scarcely take upon myself to regard the *C. Helenæ* as identical with the latter, and I have therefore (until at any rate further evidence shall settle the question) cited it as distinct. Judging from the published diagnosis, the *C. Helenæ* would appear to be smaller than the *haligena*; and it is stated to be deep black, though there is of course a possibility that the more *brassy* form did not happen to be included amongst the individuals which were examined by Mr. Hope. In the *C. Helenæ* the elytra, too, are defined as merely "striata, subrugosa;" whereas those of the *haligena* are deeply crenate-striate and have their interstices transversely imbricated in a most coarse and conspicuous manner; and the *intermediate* tibiæ only of Mr. Hope's species are said to be curved, whereas in the *C. haligena* the *four* hinder ones of the male sex are powerfully arcuate. Still, it is of course possible that the *C. Helenæ* may have been defined from an unusually small and dark example of what I subsequently enunciated under the trivial name of

haligena; and if that should prove eventually to have been the case, the title proposed for the species by Mr. Hope will have to be retained.

Genus 3. PRISTONYCHUS.

Dejean, Spec. des Col. iii. 43 (1828).

4. *Pristonychus complanatus*.

Pristonychus complanatus, Dej., loc. cit. 58 (1828).

— *alatus*, Woll., Ins. Mad. 27 (1854).

— *complanatus*, Id., Col. Atl. 27 (1865).

Læmosthenes complanatus, Harold, Cat. Col. 356 (1868).

An insect of a widely acquired geographical range, particularly, however, in Mediterranean latitudes—occurring in Portugal, Spain, the south of France, Italy, Sardinia, Sicily, Egypt, Barbary, &c. It is abundant also in the Azores, Madeiras, and Canaries, and has been reported even from Chili. At St. Helena it has been met with both by Mr. Melliss and the late Mr. Bewicke; and I have seen examples of it from the same island in the collection of Mr. A. Fry.

Genus 4. BEMBIDIUM.

Latreille, Hist. Nat. viii. 221 (1804).

(Subgenus *Notaphus*, Dej.)

5. *Bembidium Mellissii*, n. sp.

B. oblongum, subopacum, alutaceum; capite prothoraceque subæneo nigro-viridibus, hoc brevi subcordato, utrinque intra angulos posticos profunde impresso (impressionibus extus striola terminatis); elytris depressiusculis, profunde striato-punctatis (striis postice evanescentibus), lurido-testaceis sed fasciis maculisve disjunctis nigrescentibus ornatis; antennis pedibusque piceo-testaceis, illis versus apicem horumque femoribus paulo obscurioribus.

Mas, tarsorum anticorum art^o basilari valde dilatato.

Long. corp. lin. 2.

Two examples only of this beautiful *Bembidium* (which belongs to the same group as the European *B. varium* and *flammulatum*) were taken by Mr. Melliss; but I have no note as to the precise locality. It is well distinguished by its dull brassy-green head and prothorax, and lurid-testaceous elytra—the latter of which are ornamented with a number of darker fasciæ and cloudy patches, forming (on each elytron) a large subapical blotch, a postmedial zigzag (or deeply dentate) fascia, and two squarish antemedial spots placed in an oblique direction (from the shoulder) on the fore disk. The elytral striæ

are coarsely and closely punctured, or crenate, and there are two large punctiform impressions on the third interval from the suture.

Fam. 2. *Sphæridiadæ*.

Genus 5. DACTYLOSTERNUM.

Wollaston, *Ins. Mad.* 99 (1854).

6. *Dactylosternum abdominale*.

Sphæridium abdominale, Fab., *Ent. Syst.* i. 79 (1792).

Dactylosternum Roussetii, Woll., *Ins. Mad.* 99, tab. iii. f. 1 (1854).

— *abdominale*, Id., *Col. Atl.* 80 (1865).

— —, Id., *Col. Hesp.* 48 (1867).

Several specimens of this widely spread insect were taken in *St. Helena* by Mr. Melliss, and there can be no doubt that the species has become naturalized in the island through human agencies. Although found more particularly in Mediterranean latitudes, it has acquired an extended geographical range—occurring in the Azorean, Madeiran, Canarian, and Cape Verde archipelagos, and being reported even from Madagascar, Bourbon, and the East Indies.

Genus 6. SPHÆRIDIDIUM.

Fabricius, *Syst. Ent.* 66 (1775).

7. *Sphæridium dytiscoides*.

S. “ferrugineum, elytris atris. Habitat in ins. *St. Helenæ*. *Mus. Dom. Banks*. Statura et magnitudo *S. scarabæoides*; totum glabrum, nitidum. Antennæ rufæ, perfoliatæ. Caput, thorax, pectus, abdomen rufa; elytra atra, glabra.” [Ex *Fabricio*.]

Sphæridium dytiscoides, Fab., *Syst. Ent.* 67 (1775).

— —, Oliv., *Ent.* 2. 15, tab. 2. f. 10 (1790).

— —, Fab., *Ent. Syst.* i. 79 (1792).

— —, Id., *Syst. Eleu.* i. 94 (1801).

I have no means of determining what this insect (the diagnosis of which I have copied *verbatim* from the ‘*Systema Entomologiæ*’) really is; but, judging from the rough figure of it which is given by Olivier, it would appear to me to be either a true (though possibly small) *Sphæridium* or else an unusually large *Cercyon*, or (still more probably perhaps) a *Cyclo-notum*—with the head and prothorax rufo-ferruginous and the elytra black. Nevertheless, as it was described by Fabricius from a specimen (or specimens) in the cabinet of Sir Joseph Banks, which had been obtained at *St. Helena*, I have no choice but to include it in the present enumeration; and I can only hope that some future collector in the island may again

bring the species to light, and so enable us to decide positively what it is.

Fam. 3. Cucujidæ.

Genus 7. LÆMOPHLÆUS.

(Dejean) Erichs., Nat. der Ins. Deutsch. iii. 315 (1845).

8. *Læmophlæus pusillus**.

Cucujus minutus, Oliv. [nec Kugel. 1791], Ent. iv. bis, 8, 9 (1795).

— *pusillus*, Schön., Syn. Ins. iii. 55 (1817).

Læmophlæus pusillus, Woll., Col. Atl. 132 (1865).

Of the little *L. pusillus*—an insect so liable to transmission, along with grain and other articles of commerce, throughout the civilized world—a single example is now before me which was taken by Mr. Melliss at St. Helena; but, having clearly no connexion with the real fauna of the island, it is of little geographical importance. The species has, in like manner, established itself in the Madeiran and Canarian groups.

Genus 8. CRYPTAMORPHA.

Wollaston, Ins. Mad. 156 (1854).

9. *Cryptamorpha musæ*.

Cryptamorpha musæ, Woll., loc. cit. 157, tab. iv. f. 1 (1854).

— —, Id., Cat. Mad. Col. 51 (1857).

— —, Id., Col. Atl. 133 (1865).

A single example of this prettily marked insect—which in Madeira occurs beneath the loose outer fibre of Banana stems in and around Funchal—has been taken at St. Helena by Mr. Melliss. I have no note as to its exact place of capture; but if (as in Madeira) it is attached to the Bananas, in all probability the species has been introduced into the island.

Fam. 4. Cryptophagidæ.

Genus 9. CRYPTOPHAGUS.

Herbst, Käf. iv. 172 (1792).

10. *Cryptophagus affinis**.

Cryptophagus affinis, Sturm, Deutschl. Fna. xvi. 79 (1845).

— —, Erich., Nat. der Ins. Deutschl. iii. 360 (1846).

— —, Woll., Col. Atl. 137 (1865).

A common European *Cryptophagus* which—like *Læmophlæus pusillus*, *Mycetæa hirta*, and others—must clearly have been imported into the island from more northern lati-

tudes ; and therefore, even if fairly established (as is the case with it in the Azorean, Madeiran, and Canarian groups), it can of course have no connexion whatever with the original fauna of St. Helena. A single specimen of it, which I have examined with great care, has been captured (in all probability in some house or granary) by Mr. Melliss.

Fam. 5. **Mycetophagidæ.**

Genus 10. **MYCETÆA.**

(Kirby) Steph., Ill. Brit. Ent. iii. 80 (1830).

11. *Mycetæa hirta**.

Dermestes fumatus, Msh. [nec Linn., 1767], Ent. Brit. 65 (1802).

Silpha hirta, Msh., Ent. Brit. 124 (1802).

Cryptophagus hirtus, Gyll., Ins. Suec. i. 184 (1808).

Mycetæa fumata, Steph., Ill. Brit. Ent. iii. 81 (1830).

— *hirta*, Woll., Col. Atl. 156 (1865).

The widely distributed European *M. hirta*—which is so eminently liable to become naturalized, in houses and cultivated spots, throughout the civilized world—appears, from a single example now before me which was taken by Mr. Melliss, to have established itself at St. Helena ; but, like so many others of the species alluded to in this paper, it can have nothing whatever to do with the real fauna of the island. It has, in like manner, been introduced into the Azorean and Madeiran archipelagos, in the latter of which I have usually met with it crawling on the inner walls of houses.

Genus 11. **TYPHÆA.**

(Kirby) Steph., Ill. Brit. Ent. iii. 70 (1830).

12. *Typhæa fumata**.

Dermestes fumatus, Linn., Syst. Nat. ii. 564 (1767).

Typhæa fumata, Woll., Col. Atl. 157 (1865).

— —, Id., Col. Hesp. 78 (1867).

There is scarcely any insect which has acquired (doubtless through human agencies) a wider geographical range than the common European *T. fumata*; and therefore it is not surprising that it should have been met with by Mr. Melliss (judging from a single example which he has communicated to me) at St. Helena. It occurs in the north of Africa, and abounds in the Azores, Madeiras, Canaries, and Cape Verdes ; and it has even been reported likewise from the United States.

Fam. 6. Dermestidæ.

Genus 12. DERMESTES.

Linnæus, Syst. Nat. ii. 561 (1767).

13. *Dermestes cadaverinus**.*Dermestes cadaverinus*, Fab., Syst. Ent. 55 (1775).

— —, Oliv., Ent. ii. 9. 3 (1790).

— —, *domesticus*, (Geb.) Germ., Ins. Spec. Nov. 85. 143 (1824).— —, *cadaverinus*, Woll., Ann. Nat. Hist. vii. 301 (1861).

This widely spread *Dermestes* having originally been described by Fabricius (in 1775) from a St.-Helena example, in the collection of Sir Joseph Banks, it seems scarcely right to omit it from the present memoir, even though I do not myself happen to have seen a specimen of it from that island. Being peculiarly liable to transmission, in various articles of merchandise and commerce, throughout the civilized world, it has been made to acquire a very extensive geographical range,—being recorded not only in Europe, but even from South America, Mexico, Otaheite, the East Indies, Siberia, Arabia, &c.; and it was obtained abundantly, by the late Mr. Bewicke, at Ascension. Speaking of it, in 1861, in a short paper on Ascension Coleoptera, I remarked that “it belongs to the second of Erichson’s sections, in which the *third* and fourth abdominal segments of the males (instead of the fourth alone) are furnished beneath with a little circular *fossette* armed with a cone (or convergent fasciculus) of powerful bristles. In specific details, it may be known from its several allies by its (black) upper surface being uniformly and rather densely clothed with a coarse yellowish-cinereous pile, by its rather elongate and slightly narrow outline, and by its abdominal under segments having, each of them, two roundish patches of darker pile in their centre (gradually *diminishing* and *approximating* in each successive segment towards the apex), and a sublunate one at either lateral edge.”

14. *Dermestes vulpinus**.*Dermestes vulpinus*, Fab., Spec. Ins. i. 64 (1781).

— —, Woll., Col. Atl. 159 (1865).

— —, Id., Col. Hesp. 79 (1867).

An example of this almost cosmopolitan *Dermestes* (which is so well characterized by the very minute spinule with which the extreme apex of each of its elytra is furnished) was taken by Mr. Melliss at St. Helena; but the species, which (like the *D. cadaverinus*) is so eminently liable to accidental dissemination along with various articles of commerce and mer-

chandise, is of course totally unconnected with the true fauna of the island. It has been established equally in the Madeiran, Canarian, and Cape Verde groups.

Genus 13. ATTAGENUS.

Latreille, Hist. Nat. iii. 121 (1802).

15. *Attagenus gloriosæ* *.

Anthrenus Gloriosæ, Fab., Syst. Eleu. i. 107 (1801).

Æthriostoma gloriosæ, Motsch., Etud. Ent. 146 (1858).

Attagenus Gloriosæ, Woll., Ann. Nat. Hist. vii. 301 (1861).

Of this prettily fasciated *Attagenus*—which has acquired, through the medium of commerce, an almost cosmopolitan range—two examples, now before me, were captured by Mr. Melliss at St. Helena. The species has established itself likewise in the island of Ascension—where it was taken, during April 1860, by the late Mr. Bewicke; and it is reported also from India, Eastern Africa, and America.

Fam. 7. HISTERIDÆ.

Genus 14. TRIBALUS.

Erichson, in Klug, Jahrb. i. 164 (1834).

16. *Tribalus 4-striatus*, n. sp.

T. rotundato-ovalis, piceo-niger, nitidus, ubique (in disco levius) punctatus; fronte minutius punctulata, subsemicirculari, angulis anticis subrectis, oculis parvis, simplici (nec transversim carinata); elytrorum striis 4 dorsalibus sat profundis, punctatis, usque ad medium ductis, suturali nulla sed ad basim ipsam breviter arcuatim conspicua, humerali tenui obliqua; pygidio perpendiculari; antennis pedibusque piceis; tibiis anticis leviter circa 5- vel 6-denticulatis.

Long. corp. lin. vix $1\frac{1}{2}$.

The rather small size and entirely punctulated surface of this little Histerid, combined with its semicircular uncarinated forehead, and the fact of its elytra being totally free from a sutural stria (which is only traceable as a very short subscutellar arcuated impression), affiliate it with the small group of species which constitute the genus *Tribalus*; but it seems to differ (*inter alia*) from the whole of them in having four very distinct dorsal punctured striæ continued to about the middle of each elytron. Apart from other characters, its piceous-black hue, subrufescent limbs, and perpendicular pygidium will serve additionally to distinguish it. The single example from which the above diagnosis has been compiled

was communicated by Mr. Melliss, along with his other St.-Helena captures.

Genus 15. SAPRINUS.

Erichson, in Klug, Jahrb. i. 172 (1834).

17. *Saprinus lautus*, n. sp.

S. submetallicus, nitidissimus; capite prothoraceque ænescentibus, illo dense punctato, fronte ab epistomate linea transversa distincte divisa, hoc versus latera et basin grosse punctato, in disco læviore, ad latera nudo (nec ciliato); elytris cyaneis (vel subvirescenti-cyaneis), sat dense ruguloso-punctatis, punctis in disco antico et versus humeros obsoletis, striis humeralibus obsoletis, subhumerali distincta, longe ultra medium postice ducta, 4 dorsalibus ad medium terminatis (4^{ta} in suturalem integram antice arcuatam coëunte); pygidio propygidioque obscurioribus, profunde punctatis; antennis pedibusque nigro-piceis; tibiis anticis circa 8-9-denticulatis.

Long. corp. lin. 3.

The blue tinge (at any rate on the elytra) and by no means small size of this *Saprinus* are somewhat suggestive at first sight of the widely spread *S. semipunctatus*; but the fact of its epistome being divided from the forehead by a strong transverse line, in conjunction with its sutural stria being complete, and uniting in front with the fourth discal one, remove it into a totally different section of the genus—characterized by such North-American species as *Javeti*, *patruelis*, and *dimidiatipennis*, which, however, appear to be of considerably smaller stature and less punctured on the surface. A single example of this species is amongst the Coleoptera found by Mr. Melliss at St. Helena.

Fam. 8. Aphodiadæ.

Genus 16. APHODIUS.

Illiger, Käf. Preuss. i. 28 (1798).

18. *Aphodius lividus**.

Scarabæus lividus, Oliv., Ent. i. 3. 86 (1789).

Aphodius lividus, Woll., Col. Atl. 178 (1865).

— —, Id., Col. Hesp. 89 (1867).

A single example of this widely spread European *Aphodius*—which occurs throughout northern and western Africa, and in the Azorean, Madeiran, Canarian, and Cape Verde archipelagos—is amongst the Coleoptera collected at St. Helena by Mr. Melliss; but as it is an insect which easily becomes disseminated through indirect human agencies (particularly the

transportation of cattle), I feel satisfied that it has no connexion whatever with the original fauna of so remote an island.

Fam. 9. Rutelidæ.

(Subfam. ANOPLGNATHIDES.)

Genus 17. ADORETUS.

(Eschscholtz) De Casteln., Hist. Nat. des Col. ii. 142 (1840).

19. *Adoretus versutus*.

A. ovato-oblongus, elongatus, depressiusculus, sat nitidus, valde alatus, brunneus pilisque brevibus cinereis demissis parce irroratus; capite prothoraceque obscurioribus, illo magno rugose punctato, clypeo semicirculari ad marginem recurvo, oculis maximis, hoc brevissimo marginato grosse punctato, ad latera rotundato, angulis anticis porrectis, posticis rotundato-obtusis; elytris elongatis, punctato-rugosis (punctis, saltem majoribus versus latera, subseriatim dispositis), parce longitudinaliter costatis; antennis pedibusque rufo-ferrugineis; tibiis anticis extus 3-dentatis: unguiculis inæqualibus.

Long. corp. lin. $5\frac{1}{2}$ –6.

Adoretus vestitus, Bohem. [nec Reiche, 1847], Res. Eugen. 56 (1858).
— *versutus*, Harold, Col. Hefte, v. (1869).

An *Adoretus* which appears to be rather common at St. Helena. It may be known amongst the few Lamellicorns here enumerated by its narrowish, oblong outline, less convex body (which is sparingly clothed with a short, decumbent, cinereous pile) and more yellowish-brown hue, by its rather large head; greatly developed eyes, and semicircular clypeus, by its extremely abbreviated prothorax and subcostate, rugulose elytra, and by its unequal claws. The examples from which I have drawn out the above diagnosis were captured by Mr. Melliss.

Fam. 10. Dynastidæ.

(Subfam. PENTODONTIDES.)

Genus 18. HETERONYCHUS.

(Dejean) Burm., Handb. der Ent. v. 90 (1847).

20. *Heteronychus arator*.

Scarabæus arator, Fab., Ent. Syst. i. 33 (1792).

Geotrupes arator, Fab., Syst. Eleu. i. 21 (1801).

Heteronychus arator, Burm., loc. cit. 94 (1847).

— *Sanctæ-Helenæ*, Blanch., Voy. Pôle Sud, iv. 105, pl. 7. f. 6 (1853).

— *arator*, Woll., in Journ. of Ent. i. 210 (1861).

The South-African *H. arator* appears to be common at St.

Helena—where it was taken by the late Mr. Bewicke in 1860, and subsequently in considerable abundance by Mr. Melliss. It is conspecific with the insect characterized by Blanchard in the entomological portion of Dumont d'Urville's 'Voyage au Pôle Sud sur les Corvettes l'Astrolabe et la Zélée' (p. 105, pl. 7. f. 6) under the title of *H. Sanctæ-Helenæ*.

Apart from its numerous and strictly generic characters, the *H. arator* may at once be known from the two species of *Mellissius* by being rather smaller, darker, brighter, and more cylindric, by its clypeus being more rugose, and bisinuated (instead of truncate) in front, by its prothorax being unsculptured, and by the punctures of its elytra being distributed in regular striæ. Amongst other features, its antennæ are 10- (instead of 9-) articulate, its propygidium is furnished with two long file-like divergent bands for the purpose of stridulation by friction against the inner surface of the apex of its elytra, and its wings are fully developed.

Genus 19. MELLISSIUS (nov. gen.).

Corpus crassum, supra nudum, subtus pilis longis robustis obsitum: *capite* triangulari, *clypeo* apice truncato, necnon ibidem atque subito in genis (ante oculos) plus minus incrassato recurvo, *fronte* in medio vel obsolete vel conspicue tuberculata: *prothorace* magno, convexo, ad latera subæqualiter valde rotundato, in utroque sexu nisi fallor (certe in masculo) simplici, nec antice impresso; *prosternali lobo* (inter coxas anticas) brevi, piloso: *scutello* semicirculari-triangulari: *alis* minutis, obsoletis: *instrumentis stridulantibus* aut fere nullis, aut propygidium pliculis brevibus tuberculisve transversis ubique dense asperantibus. *Antennæ* 9-art^æ: art^o. 1^{mo} elongato, robusto, subclavato, subflexuoso, 2^{do} brevi transverso, 3^{io} minore brevior, 4^{to}, 5^{to}, 6^{to} gradatim paulo crescentibus, reliquis clavam magnam, foliatam, ovalem, 3-articulatam efficientibus. *Labrum* clypeo absconditum. *Mandibulæ* cornæ, robustæ, subtriangulares, concavæ, apice incurvæ obtusæ, extus setis longissimis instructæ. *Maxillarum lobus internus* obsoletus, *externus* latus, suboblongus, setisque longissimis ubique obsitus. *Palporum maxillarum articulus ultimus* obovato-oblongus, *labialium* subobovatus. *Mentum* (ligulam occultans) elongatum, subtriangulare, corneum, pilis longissimis obsitum. *Pedes* fossorii, robusti, subæquales: *tibiis anticis* extus fortiter tridentatis, *posterioribus* apice truncatis ciliatis: *tarsorum articulo basilari* subtriangulari, ultimo *unguiculis* æqualibus armato.

The structural features of the group which I have enunciated above bring it into close proximity to the Australian genera *Cheiroplatys* and *Isodon*; but a reference to the diagnosis will show that it is abundantly distinct from them both. Unlike them, also, it appears, at any rate in one of the two

species described below, to have organs for slight stridulation; and its prothorax is apparently entire in both sexes (for as it is so in 15 *males* which are now before me, we may conclude *à fortiori* that this is equally the case in the opposite sex); and its anterior male tibiæ are not enlarged as in *Cheiroplatys*. The *Mellissii* are practically apterous, their wings being very small and rudimentary, and they seem to be eminently fossorial. In its simple (or unimpressed) prothorax the genus agrees with the European and African group *Pentodon*; but, apart from other differences, the members of the latter have their organs for stridulation exceedingly conspicuous, occupying, however, the central part only of the propygidium.

I have had much pleasure in retaining for the present genus the name proposed for it by Mr. Bates—in honour of J. C. Melliss, Esq., who has supplied the greater portion of the material for this memoir, and to whose researches we are consequently indebted for the additional light which has been thrown upon the small but highly interesting fauna of St. Helena.

21. *Mellissius eudoxus*, n. sp.

M. crassus, subquadrato-ovatus, rufo-piceus, nitidus; capite grosse ruguloso-punctato (fere scabroso), clypeo lato subtriangulari apice truncato et ibidem paulo recurvo lateribus anguste marginato; prothorace magno, convexo, grosse punctato, angulis anticis subporrectis acutiusculis, posticis rotundato-obtusis, ad latera rotundato, in medio vix subangulato, longe fulvo-ciliato; elytris subquadratis sed pone medium latiusculis, apice subtruncato-abbreviatis (angulis suturalibus paulo rotundatis), propygidium transversum sublæve (mucronibus valde transversis perpaucis solum in medio parcissime adpersum) omnino occultantibus, grosse submalleato-punctatis (punctis sat profundis et perpaucis quasi in sulcis obsoletissimis undulatis evanescentibus, præter sulcum suturalem rectum, obsolete dispositis); pedibus robustis, fossoriis, fulvo-pilosis.

Mas clypeo postice in medio obsolete tuberculato (vix cornuto).

Fœm. adhuc latet.

Long. corp. lin. 7–8½.

Scarabæus eudoxus, in Dej. Cat. 168 (1837).

Although small for the *Dynastidæ*, this species and the following one are the largest of the Lamellicorns which have hitherto been detected at St. Helena; and while both of them may be known by their thick, ovate-squarish bodies (they being rather widened posteriorly), their bald though sculptured upper surfaces, their strong fossorial ciliated legs, and their rufo-piceous colour, the *M. eudoxus* (which is, on the average, a trifle smaller than the *adumbratus*) is further conspicuous by

being the more shining and deeply punctured of the two, by its clypeus being wider, less margined at the sides, and less recurved at the tip, and by its elytra (some of the punctures of which have a faint tendency to arrange themselves in very obsolete, evanescent, longitudinal, flexuous grooves) being not only less *straightly* truncate (or more rounded-off separately) at their apex, but likewise concealing altogether the propygidium—which is *straight* and *transverse* (instead of being triangular), and so destitute of asperities (there being traces of only a very few transverse plaits, or short, broken file-like ridges, in the centre behind) that I am exceedingly doubtful whether the insect is able in reality to stridulate.

The *M. eudoxus* seems to be thoroughly indigenous to the island, and found principally in cultivated regions of a rather high altitude—according to Mr. Melliss, by whom the 12 examples from which the above diagnosis has been compiled were collected. It appears, however, to have been brought from St. Helena many years ago; for it is cited in Dejean's Catalogue under the name of *Scarabæus eudoxus*; and I am informed by Mr. C. O. Waterhouse that there are two specimens (likewise “unquestionably males”) in the British Museum which had been placed aside as in all probability the type of some undefined group, and which are evidently conspecific with the present insect.

22. *Mellissius adumbratus*, n. sp.

M. crassus, subquadrato-ovatus, rufo-piceus, subopacus; capite inæqualiter punctato, fronte fere impunctata; clypeo triangulari apice truncato et valde recurvo, lateribus grosse marginato; prothorace magno, convexo, grosse sed leviter punctato, angulis anticis porrectis, acutis, posticis rotundato-obtusis, ad latera rotundato, in medio subangulato, fulvo-ciliato; elytris subquadratis sed pone medium latiusculis, apice recte truncato-abbreviatis (angulis suturalibus subrectis), propygidium subtriangulare (mucronibus transversis dense asperatum) vix occultantibus, grosse sed leviter submalleato-punctatis (punctis nullo modo in seriebus longitudinalibus, linea levi suturali excepta, dispositis); pedibus robustis, fossoriis, parce fulvo-pilosis.

Mas clypeo postice tuberculo medio magno conspicue cornuto.

Fcem. adhuc latet.

Long. corp. lin. 8–9½.

Amongst 15 examples, collected by Mr. Melliss and belonging to the present genus, there are three which are rather larger and nearly opaque (the remainder being shining), and with the obscure frontal tubercle developed into a distinct corneous process, so that my first impression was that they

were evidently the opposite sex of the smaller form—though, at the same time, if males (as their comparatively armed clypeus would imply them to be), I should have been driven to the anomalous conclusion that the individuals of that particular sex were the larger and less brilliant of the two! and moreover, *on examination*, so many other characters presented themselves that I began to feel doubtful whether they were not, after all, specifically distinct. I therefore sent two of them to Mr. C. O. Waterhouse, of the British Museum, who has lately paid considerable attention to the Lamellicorns, and he is decidedly of opinion that they cannot be referred to the same species as the other examples which I forwarded to him. Indeed Mr. Waterhouse has shown by dissection that these two opaque ones are males; and as I have myself since opened the abdomen of the third, as well as those of *eleven* out of the 12 brighter individuals, and find them all to be males likewise! there can be no longer any question that the two are positively distinct*.

Assuming therefore that the above opinion is correct (and it is difficult to see how it can be otherwise), the *M. adumbratus* recedes from the *eudoxus* in being more opaque and (on the average) a little larger, in its sculpture being altogether shallower and less rough, in its frontal tubercle (though I can only vouch for the male sex) being very much more developed, in its clypeus being narrower, more coarsely margined at the sides and more recurved at the tip, in its anterior prothoracic angles being rather more porrect and acute, and in its elytra (*none* of the punctures of which have apparently any decided tendency to be longitudinally distributed in obsolete flexuous evanescent grooves) being more *straightly* truncate behind (or with the sutural angles less rounded-off), so as to expose a portion of the propygidium—which is itself more triangular (or pointed in the centre), instead of being separated from the pygidium by a *straight* suture, and is likewise roughened *all over* (very densely so in the middle) with short transverse plaits or tubercles (well separated from each other) which clearly are employed by the insect for the purposes of stridulation. This stridulating-power is very important; and I doubt whether the preceding species can stridulate (at any rate audibly so to us) at all; for *its* propygidium, which is entirely concealed by the apical portion of the elytra, is *comparatively* bright and unsculptured, an *extremely few* and distant transverse plaits in the hinder central region being alone traceable.

* The twelfth of these more polished examples was imperfect, and had lost its abdomen; but it differed in no respect, that I could perceive, from the rest.

Fam. 11. Elateridæ.

Genus 20. HETERODERES.

Latreille, Ann. de la Soc. Ent. de France, iii. 155 (1834).

23. *Heteroderes puncticollis*, n. sp.

H. elliptico-elongatus, subnitidus, niger pilisque brevibus demissis fulvis parce vestitus; capite prothoraceque dense et profunde punctatis punctulisque minutissimis intermediis irroratis, hoc magno, convexo, in medio coleopteris latiore, angulis posticis valde productis acutissimis et carinulis binis instructis, in disco postico obsolete canaliculato, basi transversim declivo sed in media parte ipissima (pone scutellum) elevato; elytris grosse arguteque crenato-striatis, in interstitiis punctato-rugulosis; antennis, palpis pedibusque rufo-ferrugineis; tarsorum art^o 3^{io} subtus late bilobo.

Long. corp. lin. $4\frac{1}{2}$.

I am informed by Mr. Janson that the two examples from which the above diagnosis has been compiled, and which Mr. Melliss captured at St. Helena, are well distinguished by the very deep and close punctuation of their head and (largely developed) prothorax from all the species of *Heteroderes* with which he is acquainted. Amongst other characters, the species may be recognized by the much enlarged lobe, or lacinia, with which the underside of its third tarsal joint is furnished, by its almost black surface, which is sparingly clothed with a short decumbent fulvescent pile, and by its rufo-ferruginous limbs. It is a somewhat remarkable fact geographically that the only Elaterid hitherto observed at St. Helena should be a member of the genus which occurs also, in a single representative, at the Azores and Cape Verdes; whilst the equally rare Madeiran and Canarian exponents of that large department of the Coleoptera belong to a totally different group.

Fam. 12. Cleridæ.

Genus 21. CORYNETES.

Herbst, Käf. iv. 148 (1791).

24. *Corynetes rufipes**.

Anobium rufipes, Thunb., Nov. Ins. Spec. i. 10 (1781).

Corynetes rufipes, Woll., Col. Atl. 209 (1865).

— —, Id., Col. Hesp. 102 (1867).

The common European *C. rufipes*, as at Ascension and in the Canarian and Cape-Verde archipelagos, appears (judging

from three examples now before me which were captured by Mr. Melliss) to have established itself at St. Helena; but as it has equally become naturalized, through the medium of commerce, in most parts of the civilized world, it is of course totally unconnected with the real fauna of the island.

Fam. 13. *Ptinidæ*.

Genus 22. *GIBBIUM*.

Scopoli, *Intr. ad Hist. Nat.* 505 (1777).

25. *Gibbium scotias**.

Ptinus scotias, Fab., *Spec. Ins.* i. 74 (1831).

Gibbium scotias, Woll., *Col. Atl.* 214 (1865).

A single example of this European *Ptinid* is in the St.-Helena collection of Mr. Melliss; but the species, of course, is a mere importation, and might perhaps be found more plentifully if searched for in the warehouses and town. It appears, in like manner, to have become established at Madeira.

Fam. 14. *Anobiadæ*.

Genus 23. *ANOBIUM*.

Fabricius, *Syst. Ent.* 62 (1775).

26. *Anobium velatum**.

Anobium velatum, Woll., *Ins. Mad.* 276, t. v. f. 3 (1854).

— — —, *Id.*, *Cat. Mad. Col.* 92 (1857).

— — —, *Id.*, *Cat. Can. Col.* 249 (1864).

— — —, *Id.*, *Col. Atl.* 226 (1865).

A single example of an *Anobium* which was taken by Mr. Melliss in St. Helena appears to me to be too close to the Madeiran *A. velatum* to admit of its being separated from that species, though perhaps its elytra are not quite so strongly punctate-striate. Its extremely elongated suberect pubescence renders it more in accordance with the *A. velatum* than with the Canarian *A. villosum* of Brullé, though in point of fact the two species are so intimately related that I cannot feel quite sure that they are more in reality than modifications of a single plastic form. If my conjecture, that in the more northern archipelagos these particular species are considerably attached to the old vine-trees, is correct, it is more than probable that the one now before me may have been accidentally imported into St. Helena.

27. *Anobium paniceum**.

Dermestes paniceus, Linn., Faun. Suec. 431 (1761).

Anobium paniceum, Woll., Col. Atl. 227 (1865).

——, Id., Col. Hesp. 109 (1867).

I need scarcely add that the almost cosmopolitan *A. paniceum* (a few examples of which are amongst Mr. Melliss's insects from St. Helena) is a mere accidental importation into the island, and has no kind of connexion whatsoever with the true fauna, the presence of such species in any local list being merely dependent upon the amount of diligence with which the warehouses and stores may happen to have been searched. The *A. paniceum* has, in like manner, become established in the Azorean, Madeiran, Canarian, and Cape-Verde archipelagos.

28. *Anobium striatum**.

Anobium striatum, Oliv., Ent. ii. 16. 9 (1790).

——, Woll., Col. Atl. 227 (1865).

Like the last species, the present common European *Anobium* has (judging from a few examples which were captured by Mr. Melliss) become established at St. Helena; but it has, of course, no more to do than that equally cosmopolitan insect with the original fauna of the island. It has been naturalized in like manner in the Azorean, Madeiran, and Canarian groups.

29. *Anobium confertum**, n. sp.?

A. cylindricum, fusco-nigrum, ubique minutissime et densissime subgranulato-punctatum pubesque brevi demissa cinerea vestitum; prothorace simplici, transverso, postice elytrorum latitudine, angulis anticis subrectis, posticis paulo magis rotundatis, ad latera subrecto subrecurvo ferrugineo; elytris obsolete longitudinaliter substriatis (sed punctis majoribus carentibus); antennis pedibusque inæqualiter piceo-ferrugineis, tarsis clarioribus.

Long. corp. lin. $1\frac{3}{4}$.

Having no information concerning the precise places of capture of Mr. Melliss's various Coleoptera, I cannot but look with suspicion upon a single example of an *Anobium* now before me, as having in all probability become introduced into the island and been found by him in some house or cultivated spot; yet, as it is well characterized by its very peculiar sculpture, and I cannot identify it with any member of the genus to which I have had access, I have thought it desirable to enunciate the species on the chance that it will be ascertained to have been undescribed. Apart from its cylindric but not very elongated outline, and (for an *Anobium*) rather dark hue, it may be known by its transverse prothorax, which has the

sides somewhat straight, slightly recurved, and ferruginous, by its fine and short (but not very dense) cinereo-sericeous pubescence, and by its entire surface being most minutely and closely punctulated, the punctures being so crowded together as to cause the surface to be dull and to appear at first sight to be alutaceous, or even coriaceous. Its elytra are obsoletely striated, but without any intermixture of larger punctures.

Fam. 15. Bostrichidæ.

Genus 24. RHIZOPERTHA.

Stephens, Ill. Brit. Ent. iii. 254 (1830).

30. *Rhizopertha bifoveolata**.

Rhizopertha bifoveolata, Woll., Ann. Nat. Hist. ii. 409 (1858).

Rhizopertha —, Id., Col. Atl. 232 (1865).

—, Id., Col. Hesp. 110 (1867).

I have little doubt that the present *Rhizopertha* has, like the *R. pusilla*, become naturalized in the island through the medium of commerce; and it is possible therefore that it may be ascertained eventually to have been described by some prior title to that which I myself proposed for it in 1858. Be this, however, as it may, it seems to be conspecific with the insect which was taken by Mr. M. Park "out of a cask of flour" at Madeira (in the Funchal custom-house), and likewise with an example which I captured in a quinta at S^{ta} Catharina, in the interior of St. Iago, of the Cape Verdes. Unless I am much mistaken, there are many examples of it in the collection at the British Museum bearing labels which show how widely the insect has become disseminated, through human agencies, over distant parts of the civilized world.

31. *Rhizopertha pusilla**.

Synodendron pusillum, Fab., Ent. Syst. v. (Suppl.) 156 (1798).

Rhizopertha pusilla, Steph., loc. cit. 354 (1830).

Rhizopertha —, Woll., Col. Atl. 232 (1865).

Like the last species, the almost cosmopolitan *R. pusilla* appears (judging equally from examples of it which were taken by Mr. Melliss) to have become established in the warehouses and stores of St. Helena, just as it has in the Madeiran archipelago and elsewhere.

Fam. 16. Tomicidæ.

Genus 25. TOMICUS.

Latreille, Hist. Nat. des Ins. iii. 203 (1802).

32. *Tomicus æmulus*, n. sp.

T. cylindricus, nitidus, nigro-piceus, pilisque longiusculis suberectis fulvescentibus parce obsitus; prothorace amplo, subalutaceo, postice evidenter punctulato, mox ante medium subnodoso-convexo, antice dilatato obtuse rotundato necnon mucronibus asperato; elytris leviter striato-punctatis punctulisque minoribus in interstitiis uniseriatim notatis, ad apicem retusis, parte perpendiculari dentibus sublateralibus duobus subæqualibus (sc. superiore et inferiore) ac perpauca lateralibus minutissimis granuliformibus utrinque armata; antennis pedibusque testaceo-ferrugineis.

Long. corp. lin. $1\frac{1}{3}$.

The single specimen from which the above diagnosis has been drawn out, and which was captured at St. Helena by Mr. Melliss, has much the general appearance, at first sight, of the European *T. saxeseni* (which occurs likewise in the Azorean, Madeiran, and Canarian archipelagos); but a closer inspection will show not only that it is a little larger and more pilose, with its prothorax less alutaceous and more distinctly punctulated behind, but that its elytra are more retuse (or perpendicularly truncated) at the apex, and that each of them is armed with (in addition to smaller and granuliform ones) two robust acute spines. This latter character, apart from its less shining and more evidently punctulated prothorax and darker hue, will equally separate it from the *T. perforans*, a species closely resembling the *saxeseni*, and which has been found in the Madeiran and Cape-Verde archipelagos (where, however, in all probability it has become naturalized accidentally through human agencies). What the exact habit of the St.-Helena species may be, I cannot tell; but, if found in the higher districts of the island, at a distance from the towns, it is of course possible (though I should scarcely think likely) that it may be truly indigenous.

Fam. 17. Hylesinidæ.

Genus 26. HYLURGUS.

Latreille, Gen. Crust. et Ins. ii. 274 (1807).

33. *Hylurgus ligniperda**.

Bostrichus ligniperda, Fab., Ent. Syst. i. ii. 367 (1792).

Hylurgus ligniperda, Woll., Col. Atl. 250 (1865).

As in the Azorean, Madeiran, and Canarian groups, the European *H. ligniperda* appears (judging from examples of it which were captured by Mr. Melliss) to have become naturalized at St. Helena; but as it is an insect which is eminently liable to accidental transmission along with trees of the pine family, its presence in even so remote an island may perhaps be accounted for.

[To be continued.]